

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 97

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	September 2015						
	July 2015 Total	August 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	145.1	180.8	27.3	118.4	219.3	157.9	2/63
Nafanua	9.5	101.6	5.9	105.3	177.4	157.0	1/43
Apia	4.6	62.5	7.8	95.0	175.0	124.5	4/126
Faleolo	41.3	26.7	39.7	58.2	177.5	83.9	9/53

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
July to September 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #93]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Afiamalu	353.2	490.1	675.5	592.9	13/61	29/44/27 (-3.3)	Near consistent
Nafanua	117.0	324.2	511.6	406.5	1/43	35/33/32 (-3.9)	Consistent
Apia	74.9	251.5	423.6	347.0	5/126	38/24/38 (-4.0)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	107.7	218.9	360.5	284.8	4/51	41/33/26 (-3.6)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for July to September 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #93):

Nino 3.4 value from March to May 2015.

* Forecast is consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is near-consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by only one category (i.e. terciles 1 and 2 or terciles 2 and 3).

Forecast is inconsistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by two categories (i.e. terciles 1 and 3).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for November 2015 to January 2016

Predictors and Period used : Nino 3.4 value from July to September 2015 period.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	95	1756.6	5		19.7%	72.7%
Nafanua	84	1249.1	16		8.1%	67.9%
Apia	84	1055.4	16		4.2%	57.6%
Faleolo	76	752.2	24		1.2%	57.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	47	1445.8	51	1993.1	2	11.4%	45.5%
Nafanua	87	1052.1	8	1490.6	5	12.6%	50.0%
Apia	44	955.7	42	1205.0	15	0.8%	24.2%
Faleolo	57	682.0	34	892.5	9	2.6%	50.0%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for November 2015 to January 2016

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	85	935	5	1213	10		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for September 2015:

“Below normal” rainfall was recorded for all stations.

Accumulated rainfall for July to September 2015, including outlook verification:

All stations registered “below normal” rainfall for July to September 2015 period.

For the outlook verification was “near consistent” for Afiamalu and Apia for the July to September period. Nafanua and Faleolo recorded “consistent”.

Outlooks for November 2015 to January 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

- “Normal rainfall” is favour for the coming season at Afiamalu station.
- Nafanua and Faleolo stations favour “below normal” rainfall with normal the next most likely.
- The seasonal rainfall outlook for Apia station shows a near equal likelihood of “normal” and “below normal” rainfall. “Above normal” rainfall is the least likely.
- The confidence of the is ranges from “good” to “low”

2. POAMA: “Below normal” rainfall is favoured for Apia station in the next coming season.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: $X < 0.0$

Low: $0 \leq X < 5$

Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$

Good: $10 \leq X < 15$

High: $15 \leq X < 25$

Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$

Exceptional: $X \geq 35$